

Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest, Siskiyou Mountains Ranger District 6941 Upper Applegate Rd Jacksonville, Oregon 97350



United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management Medford District Ashland Field Office 3040 Biddle Road Medford, Oregon 97504

November 21, 2018

## Dear Interested Citizen,

The Siskiyou Mountains Ranger District of the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest and the Ashland Resource Area, Medford District of the Bureau of Land Management would like to announce that they have completed the preparation of the environmental assessment (EA) for the Upper Applegate Watershed Restoration Project (UAWRP). You are receiving this email because you either commented during the scoping period or have expressed interest during the planning process. Attached you will find the completed EA for the UAWRP. The 30 day comment period begins Wednesday November 21, 2018. For those that requested a hard copy of the document, it is being put in the mail. If you did not request a hard copy, and would like one, copies will be available at the Star Ranger Station. Or if you reply to this email, we can mail you a copy.

This project, also referred to as the UAWRP, encompasses the 52,000-acre Upper Applegate Watershed, and is a 3-year collaborative effort between stakeholders and federal agencies (the RRSNF and Medford District's BLM) that incorporates an all-lands approach to address landscape resilience to disturbances. Using this approach, the agencies sought to highlight nature's benefits, as well as the goods and services provided by forests to the surrounding communities. Some of the analyzed activities include road restoration, riparian restoration, fuels reduction and prescribed fire, restoration of botanical habitats, commercial thinning, and motorized and non-motorized trail work. Additional information on the Upper Applegate Watershed Protection Project EA is available on the website: https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=52305.

The following are the legal requirements for commenting. If you would like more information or have questions relating to this proposal or how to comment, contact Donna Mickley, by email at <a href="mailto:dmickley@fs.fed.us">dmickley@fs.fed.us</a>.

How to Comment and Timeframe: Written, facsimile, hand-delivered, and electronic comments concerning this action will be accepted for 30 calendar days. This comment period is being provided pursuant to 36 CFR § 218.24. Comments received must contain the requirements listed at 36 CFR § 218.25(a) (3) to establish standing for objections. Specific written comments as defined by § 218.2 should be within the scope of the proposed action, have a direct relationship to the proposed action, and must include supporting reasons for the responsible official to consider. Individuals and organizations are responsible for ensuring that their comments are received in a timely manner. Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record on these proposed actions and will be available for public inspection.

Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered: however, anonymous comments will not provide the agency with the ability to provide the respondent with subsequent environmental documents. Only those who respond to this request for comments will remain on the mailing list for this project.

Comments may be sent or hand delivered to the Siskiyou Mountains Ranger District, Attn: Upper Applegate Watershed Restoration Project, 6941 Upper Applegate Road, Jacksonville, Oregon, 97530. Office business hours are: 8:00 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Comments can be faxed (541) 899-3888. Electronic comments must be submitted in a common format, such as an email message as standalone or with attachments in plain text (.txt), rich text format (.rtf), adobe portable document format (.pdf) or Microsoft word (.doc or .docx) file, emailed to: comments-pacific northwest-rogueriver-siskiyoumountains@fs.fed.us. Include in the subject line: Upper Applegate Watershed Restoration Project. Emails submitted to email addresses other than the one listed, in other formats than those listed, or containing viruses will be rejected. Comments should be addressed to Donna Mickley, District Ranger. An objection period will follow the regulation found in § 218.7. Pursuant to § 218.5, only those who have submitted timely, specific written comments during any designated opportunity for public comment may file an objection.

Donna M. Mickley District Ranger Siskiyou Mountains Ranger District Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest Kristi J. Mastrofini Field Manager Ashland Field Office, Medford District Bureau of Land Management